

NORTH VALLEY 2012 PINOT NOIR

NORTH VALLEY WINES. The Willamette Valley is Oregon's most recognized appellation for cool climate varietal wines, and it is in the Northern part of this region where the finest vineyards are found - an epicenter we refer to as the North Valley - which includes all of the defined sub-appellations (the Dundee Hills, Ribbon Ridge, Yamhill-Carlton, etc.). It is from within this region of rolling hillsides and diverse soils that veteran winegrowers James Cahill and Tony Soter, along with North Valley partners, Brian Sypher and Michelle Soter, source certified sustainable vineyards of real "Cru" quality for these personality-driven wines. Meticulous, hands-on attention to farming practices throughout the growing season from flowering through harvest, and minimal handling in the winery, assures a resulting level of quality normally associated exclusively with estate grown wines - in fact, we think of each vineyard site we work with as if it were a "satellite estate property", as a statement of our genuine commitment to making the best wines we can.

TASTING AND VINTAGE NOTES. The 2012 vintage will be regarded as one of the greatest in the history of the Willamette Valley. A warm, early spring flowering helped to begin and ensure full ripening under consistent, sunny skies throughout most of the growing season, which included harvest time. For us, the vintage has yielded hedonistic Pinot Noirs that do not sacrifice balance or focus. They will be enjoyable young, and age for years to come. Aromas and flavors of perfectly ripe raspberries, plus blue and black fruits, are laced with notes of passion fruit. Additional nuances of ripe cane berries, pie spice and earth layer in complexity. The wine has great energy, with cherry pit and mineral elements contributing a fine sense of grip. In 2012, our North Valley Pinot Noir also represents the highest caliber of combined vineyard sources we have been privileged to work with, which include Beacon Hill, Momtazi, Zena Crown and Vista Hills.

APPELLATION

57% Yamhill-Carlton
26% Eola-Amity Hills
5% Ribbon Ridge
12% Willamette Valley
Certified Sustainable Vineyards

ELEVAGE

16% new French oak barrels
84% previously filled,
2-3 yr old French oak barrels
30% whole cluster fermentation

"...brambly red berry fruit interlaced with white pepper and clove, maintaining good depth toward the slightly dusty finish. Fine."

91 PTS, THE WINE ADVOCATE

ALCOHOL

13.9%

CELLARING

Drinks beautifully now.
Enjoy through 2020.

"Lithe and vital, brimming with red berry, cinnamon, coffee and spice flavors that dance winsomely on the refined finish."

90 PTS, WINE SPECTATOR

